

SIERRA CLUB BULLETIN

January 1965



“. . . sunshine streamed through the luminous fringes of the clouds and fell on . . . the intensely white, far-spreading fields of ice and the . . . heights of the Fairweather Range . . . making a picture of icy wildness unspeakably pure and sublime.”

—JOHN MUIR
from *Travels in Alaska*

Our Landlord Is a Softy

SCENE: A pearly-lit executive suite. The Landlord, seated on a throne-like chair, is listening to the annual year-end report of his Chief Collection Agent, Mr. Gabriel.

Mr. Gabriel: And so, Sir, there's no question that you have a beautiful piece of property there, all right. Ah, the way the grass smells after a rain. The brilliance of a snowfield on a crisp morning. The softness of a desert in the moonlight. The way a sea fog creeps in. . . .

The Landlord (sighing): Yes, yes, Gabriel, I know. But let's get down to facts and figures. What about depreciation this past year?

Mr. Gabriel (shaking his head): Not so good, Sir. They've burned some more holes in Vietnam, smashed up the Congo, put a few nicks in Yemen and frayed the Arab-Israeli border rather badly.

The Landlord: Just write it off under "Normal Wear and Tear," Gabriel.

Mr. Gabriel (dubiously): Well, if you say so, Sir. But what about the air?

The Landlord: Well, what about the air?

Mr. Gabriel (consulting notes): They've poured another 16.2 million tons of exhaust fumes, industrial smoke and other garbage into the air, Sir. Really, it's rapidly lowering the value of the entire property. (Grudgingly.) Of course, I will say they didn't make it as radioactive as they did the year before.

The Landlord (nodding): See? That's an encouraging note.

Mr. Gabriel: But it's a different story with the water supply.

The Landlord (sadly): I suppose it is.

Mr. Gabriel: Yes, they've dumped 13.2 trillion more gallons of sewage, mud, industrial chemicals and other poisons into virtually every rivulet, creek and river. You cannot lie on your belly and drink from a cool, clear stream any more without chancing typhus, hepatitis, cholera. . . .

The Landlord (holding up his hand): Please, how were crops? I assume they've been growing things.

Mr. Gabriel: Yes. I was going to get to soil erosion next. During the past 12 months no less than 82.5 billion tons of rich loam. . . .

The Landlord (hastily): But they have been improving the property, I'm sure. What about new construction?

Mr. Gabriel: Yes. Let's see, they have built 112,232 new public buildings, all of which they claim will look very nice. Once the trees grow. They have also erected 27,342 new oil derricks on once-pleasant hillsides, paved-over 43 alpine meadows with freeways and . . .

The Landlord (wincing): Not the alpine meadows!

Mr. Gabriel (relentlessly): Yes, the alpine meadows. And, thanks to advances in rocketry, they reached new heights with their debris. While, at the same time, they have been busy drilling a deep hole into the earth. To see what's inside.

The Landlord: It's more curiosity than vandalism.

Mr. Gabriel: Sir, you must face facts. You have a beautiful piece of property and undesirable tenants. By any conceivable rule of property management, you have but one choice. (Raising a golden horn to his lips.) Shall I sound the eviction notice now?

The Landlord (hesitating): No, let's extend their short-term lease for just one more year, Gabriel.

Mr. Gabriel: But you've been saying that for ages, Sir.

The Landlord (sighing deeply): I know, Gabriel. But I keep thinking that sooner or later they're going to stop acting as though they owned the place.

ARTHUR HOPPE

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Sierra Club Bulletin

JANUARY, 1965
VOL. 50—No. 1

. . . TO EXPLORE, ENJOY, AND PROTECT
THE NATION'S SCENIC RESOURCES . . .

COVER: Lituya Mountain from the 1963 Fair-weather Range expedition base camp, Fairweather Range, Glacier Bay National Monument, Alaska. Photograph by Dave Bohn.

OUR LANDLORD IS A SOFTY	Arthur Hoppe	2
PROPOSAL FOR A KAUAI NATIONAL PARK	Robert Wenkam	3
NINTH BIENNIAL WILDERNESS CONFERENCE	Peggy Wayburn	5
THE STORY OF THE NATIONAL TRIBUTE GROVE	Russell D. Butcher	6
THE REDWOODS REPORT: A PROPOSED NATIONAL PARK, PART II	Edgar Wayburn	8
BOOK REVIEWS		10
LETTERS		12
BOARD ACTIONS		14
THOREAU VISITS JAPAN VIA THE SIERRA CLUB		15
WASHINGTON OFFICE REPORT	William Zimmerman, Jr.	16

THE SIERRA CLUB,* founded in 1892, has devoted itself to the study and protection of national scenic resources, particularly those of mountain regions. Participation is invited in the program to enjoy and preserve wilderness, wildlife, forests, and streams.

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WHAT MARIN STANDS TO LOSE
The meaning of Marincello

PREPARED BY

COMMITTEE TO SAVE THE GOLDEN GATE
Scenic Roads Association

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Sponsored by the Scenic Roads Association

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FACT SHEET

Q. What is at stake?

A. An application to build a city of 25,000 persons on a 2,100-acre site near the Golden Gate, above the Federal forts that are to become State Parks.

Q. What kind of community would Marincello be?

A. An apartment tower city. The Marincello model shows more than fifty of these towers, each sixteen stories high. Seventy-five per cent of the Marincello residents would live in apartments.

Q. What about Marincello's economic and social structure?

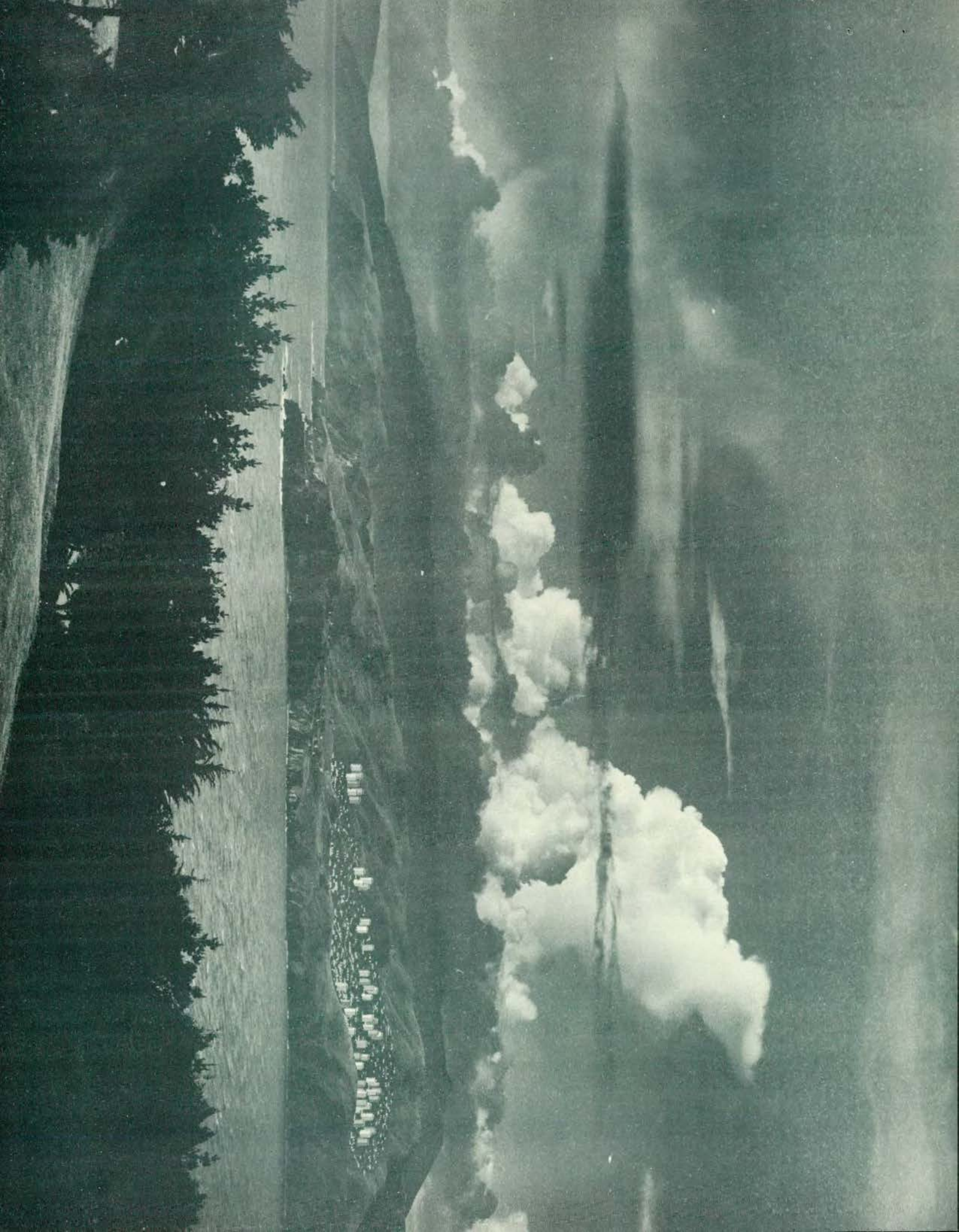
A. The planners say they will bring in light industry and provide moderate-priced housing for those who will work in the factories, hotels, etc.

Q. What is the fundamental objection to Marincello?

A. First, it is a blight on the famous Golden Gate. Second, it will introduce a much heavier density of population than Southern Marin can stand -- particularly on a windswept, foggy site. Third, it will create a precedent that will make it hard to deny other landowners the same density of development.

Q. What is the goal of the Committee to Save the Golden Gate?

A. In the short run, Marin must not give a go-ahead to Marincello until Southwest Marin has had a master plan drawn up in the public interest. In the long run, all or some of this area should be reserved for park or greenbelt -- possibly with State or Federal aid.





VIEW OF MARIN HILLS FROM LANDS END, SAN FRANCISCO. BY ANSEL ADAMS (NOW TURN THE PAGE)

SAVE THE GOLDEN GATE!

SOME REASONS WHY

Those of us who stand up for certain planning and conservation goals are frequently accused of being "against everything". The other day, as if it were a crime, we were accused of constituting a "conservation lobby" in Marin County. Without being unduly defensive, it is necessary to examine our programs to see that they are consistent; and it doesn't hurt to check their practicality, too. It is too much to expect that the all-out, obscurantist foes of planning will listen or give currency to our views; but there is a large group of reasonable people in the middle who will be receptive, and these are the ones who need to be reached.

With this in mind, let us ask ourselves why we are against the Marincello Project:

1. AESTHETICS

We put this first because "Save the Golden Gate" has become our rallying cry, and is the most telling single argument, particularly outside the County where details of our planning do not interest people very much. Beauty is not, as many unthinking persons say, the concern of the weak and impractical. Truly seen, the beautiful is the strong, the healthy, the life-abetting.

Why are the Marincello towers obnoxious so close to the Golden Gate? We have demonstrated that they will be clearly visible from San Francisco, where almost all the famous Golden Gate views are seen by tourists and photographed for world consumption.

Towers in themselves need not be ugly. San Francisco seen from Marin is almost as glorious a vision in its way as Marin from San Francisco; housing and towers are part of that expanse, rising from the cliffs along the southern portal of the Gate.

What is the difference?

The answer becomes apparent when you look at the Marin shore from San Francisco, even from the Golden Gate Bridge. But it also pays to make the trip out through the one-way tunnel to Forts Barry and Cronkhite, passing the proposed site of Marincello at close hand.

The Marin hills, though green right now, (Winter, 1965), are brown or tawny for eight months of the year. Hardly a tree can be seen; even brush finds it difficult to grow. The hills rise direct from the sea, with very little beach at their foot. They rise steeply to dramatic crests, the effect being compounded by the mass of Mt. Tamalpais in their far background.

The Marin hills are the work of a master sculptor--they are almost pure form and texture, with a magical affinity for light and shade: they alter from moment to moment during a sunset, or under storm clouds. In this, they are like many other tawny California hills; they happen to be unique because they front on the Pacific, and at the Golden Gate.

But they lack either intimacy or detail. The absence of trees tells us at once that they are poorly watered and shelterless. They do not suggest human habitation. Here is their chief difference from the opposite, San Francisco portal of the Gate, where trees and shelter--and beaches--speak of comfort and shelter.

The two portals of the Gate thus make a perfect contrasting pair that itself is a transcendental work of art.

* * * * *

Transport yourself in imagination now to the time, 15 years from now, when Marincello is supposed to be a thriving apartment city of 25,000 persons. See the hills cicatriced with roads--wider and more deeply cut than the Army's present meager road system on the foreground hills of Fort Barry. Note the apartment towers, clustered in groups of four or five. There are 50 of them --yes, fifty! -- each 16 stories high. At their feet, marked by red construction scars, there are bulldozed pads of earth to provide approach roads and a little level space for their tenants. Groups of trees, their shapes deformed by the salt wind, are struggling for life. Students at the high school have whitewashed a large "M" on the highest hill. On windless days a light blue-gray pall of smog clings to the hills.

At sunset, the glow of lights from the Marincello downtown business district competes with the deepening red from the West. The gasoline stations and supermarkets at the corners are brightly lighted though, since this is Marin County, the signs do not revolve or flicker. The traffic lights change from red to green; strings of headlights move across the intersections in one direction, strings of red tail lights in the other. A cold blue network of mercury vapor lamps provides street lighting. The pinpoints of light from the windows in the hotel on the topmost hill and those in the towers make a pattern that is not unæsthetic in itself, but adds far too little to make up for what has been taken away.

* * * * *

To sum up the aesthetics question: It is possible to grant that many California hills have been more or less successfully built upon, sometimes with towers, and that the resulting communities have been part of our State's fabled way of life. But it is still a stubborn fact that the hills near the Golden Gate would be the wrong place to do it.

2. ENVIRONMENTAL SUITABILITY

To a great extent overlapping with aesthetics, this point is probably going to be decisive for the practical success or failure of Marincello if it is allowed to proceed. Cold winds, fog, lonely bleakness, lack of level walking space, and above all, unremitting exposure of the human animal to the elements--such is the basic environment of the site, which has kept it uninhabited till now. Talk to the Coast Guardsmen at Point Bonita: it is a tough duty. Look at the map of the Bay Area and note where communities have sprung up--always first where there is shelter. A good rule of thumb is: Where trees grow, there men can live successfully.

The landowner says he will take the risk, is optimistic about the environment. No doubt much can be done with modern machinery to provide artificial shelter-- at the cost of damage to the hills. There was once a speculative article in the principal architectural monthly of the U.S. (AIA Journal, December 1962), proposing an atomic explosion to alter the configuration of the hills and create an artificial bowl, including a marina, at the Cronkhite Beach site. (The resulting projected population: 400,000 persons!)

Community responsibility must become operational somewhere along the line. We do not let people move into environments that are unsanitary, and we have safety codes for buildings. If we are fairly sure that a site will prove sub-standard from the point of view of habitability, and consequently will be a drain on the economics of the rest of the county, the community should probably intervene.

3. DENSITY

When we speak of density, we speak of a relative factor, but one that has absolutes at both ends of the scale. Research has proved that early loneliness leads to schizophrenia; it has also indicated that, beyond a certain degree of overcrowding, social relationships break down, and even among animals, decadent symptoms break out that are curiously similar to those of men in crowded cities.

The desirable density for the Marincello site is related to the density possible for Marin County and that, in turn, is related to the density tolerable for the Bay Area.

We submit that it is hardly necessary to argue that the proposed density of 25,000 persons on the 2,100-acre Marincello site is too great; moreover, carrying the same density northward on adjacent land to Muir Beach would produce a city -- a new Pacifica -- of 50,000 persons--completely unbalancing Marin County and destroying the Bay Area's chance for a needed greenbelt.

This will obviously be one of the main overt considerations of the Southwest Marin Master Plan, and was the consideration that most profoundly influenced our Supervisors in making Marincello's plan wait on general planning.

4. TRAFFIC

The Golden Gate Bridge is now overcrowded at rush hours, and no plans for either Rapid Transit or a second crossing will provide any relief for South Marin (Engineers reportedly are sure that there is no satisfactory site for another bridge or tunnel anywhere near the Golden Gate). The Waldo approach is almost as much of a bottleneck as the bridge; and Marincello plans to feed much of its traffic onto the Waldo at the windy, steep places where most accidents occur.

Indicated is, not total panic at expansion in South Marin, but at the very least a decision that growth must be conservative and follow established lines.

To date, public opinion in the United States has followed laissez-faire principles: Developers have been allowed to take any risk, generate the traffic that in turn forces the hands of highway and bridge engineers. The result, as the (Luce-published) magazine HOUSE & HOME remarked some time ago, has been that "speculators are subsidized by our system of public improvements for private profit".

One by-product is that people who live elsewhere (e.g. Tiburon, the Paradise Drive section North of Tiburon, and Corte Madera) pay the price when a new bridge and freeway obliterate their homesites.

5. PLANNING: GOOD, BAD, INDIFFERENT

We are told that Marincello is good because it is PLANNED. Here let a purist point out that planning is neither good nor bad in itself; it is a fortifier, which makes good better, bad worse.

When we talk of planning, we mean planned use of the land: the earth, which is our mother. If the efforts of Marincello's planners are designed solely to fit a set of conditions prescribed by the owners (planners call these "givens"), rather than the real best use of the site, their plan must be condemned as using a gourmet sauce to disguise rancid meat.

It is our conviction that this is the case--that the Marincello planners wrestled manfully with the objections to the site that we have outlined under the previous four headings, but eventually did a professional job of making the best possible case--like lawyers (and public relations men).

As so often happens, Marincello will have far-reaching implications for other owners and interests, to whom the Marincello planners are not responsible. Item: the Golden Gate Headlands State Parks, which will become more or less private playgrounds for the Marincello community. Item: the Shoreline Highway, for which parkway status has so long been sought, but which is in danger of becoming a trucking-commuter road for Marincello. Item: the land-owners to the North, whose rising taxes will force them to make early decisions and who may lose their options to develop more lightly or even to greenbelt their holdings.

Is this kind of one-owner planning a substitute for--is it even a near relation of--the planning we need in Marin? To ask the question is to answer it. We must clearly have a Southwest Marin Master Plan that has been prepared in the public interest, with "givens" that are not those of one private owner (and an absentee one at that).

Spokesmen for Marincello have indicated irritation at the delay that may be involved. Well, it is late for them to complain. The Frouge Corporation has been interested in the site for at least six years--that was when the first contacts were made with planners and engineers, some of whom did (and some did not) do preliminary work for the Corporation.

Yet for years, the County Planning Department knew no more of Marincello than it could glean from gossip. No letters, no telegrams were received, no personal interviews were solicited. Not until the public relations campaign was well mounted, in fact.

CORRECTION

Since this brochure went to press, the Marin Co Board of Supervisors granted Planned Community Zoning to Marincello. While a disappointment, this by no means commits the County; and, now, the applicant must justify his proposals on density, apartment towers, industry, and other very difficult factors in his plan.

It appears that it will not be possible for our readers to follow our advice on inspecting the Model. Inquirers have been told, since the Board's rezoning action, that the Model is no longer available for public viewing, presumably pending master plans.

COMMITTEE TO SAVE THE GOLDEN GATE

After so long, it appears, there is suddenly a hurry. An injustice will be done if there is the slightest delay. The owner has a "right" (some falsely state a "constitutional right") to develop; it is a "freeze" or a "moratorium" if the public authorities whom we have elected should desire the slightest interval to scan the zoning application.

We believe you will agree with us that this is great nonsense from the Age of Public Relations. Let us make Marin County a bastion of common sense resistance against it!

Let us insist on no rezoning until there has been a Southwest Marin Master Plan.

* * * * *

SUMMARIZING

The foregoing are the main headings under which we group our resistance to the Marincello Project. There are others, of which the economic, including taxes, is probably the most important. It does not happen to be an appropriate primary function of the Scenic Roads Association to analyze the effect on school and utility taxes, if the optimistic estimates of the Marincello consultants prove incorrect. This has been very well done by Michael Wornum, Mayor of Mill Valley, in a guest editorial in the Mill Valley Record for January 6.

Our analysis may be pessimistic. We know that there are ways of meeting some of our objections. We do not believe there is any way of meeting them all, and we believe many of the remedies are worse than the disease--like the atomic proposal.

We invite all of you to do what we have repeatedly done: Go to 3030 Bridgeway (same building as our office), look at the model, try to orient it in your mind to a road map or merely to mental landmarks. Then immediately drive out to the site: Use the tunnel to Forts Barry and Cronkhite, south of Sausalito on the way to the Bridge; or try a drive on rough, narrow, winding Rodeo Road which leaves the Waldo Grade roughly above our building. Follow the ridge road and return by Spencer Avenue.

Do this on windy days, rainy days, sunshiny days, foggy days. Use your imagination. Some of you may care to drive down to Pacifica, in San Mateo County, and from there on down to Montara, where Henry Doelger plans to build a city of 50,000 people. These will provide reference points to support your own thinking--and that independent thinking is the most precious stuff our democracy can acquire.

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Charles de Young Thieriot, Editor and Publisher

George T. Cameron, Publisher 1925 to 1955

Founded 1865 by Charles and M. H. de Young

PAGE 36 Thursday, Feb. 4, 1965

Marin County's New Park Area

OVER STRONG OPPOSITION from Bay Area conservationists, the Marin County Board of Supervisors has unanimously approved rezoning of 138 acres west of Highway 101 and near Sausalito for a "planned community."

The change was sought by developers of Marinello, who propose building homes, high rise apartments and other facilities for some 25,000 residents. Opponents of the development have carried their objections to the White House with an appeal to President Johnson to make a Federal project of the area and preserve it for park and greenbelt use.

The action of the Marin Supervisors, probably forestalling any such intervention, adds great urgency to proposals of the State Park Commission for acquisition of other privately owned acreage in the vicinity. The commission has recommended purchase of 3212 acres of scenic coastline and beaches, now under private ownership, for addition to Mt. Tamalpais State Park. This would entail purchase of all coastal lands from Stinson beach to Marin Headlands State Park, including 4.5 miles of shoreline.

CONNECTING WITH BEACH LANDS already acquired by the State, and joined with Federally owned lands of Forts Cronkite, Barry and Baker—some which has already been declared surplus — this would provide an almost unbroken stretch of public beach from the Golden Gate Bridge to the northern edge of Stinson Beach and leave unspoiled what the commission justly describes as "one of the most beautifully spectacular examples of coastal scenery" in the State.

The example of Marinello fortifies the commission's warning that the State must compete with subdividers and industrial developers for this highly desirable land and that if it is to be acquired for park purposes it must be acquired soon.

THE AREA INVOLVED is remarkable for its proximity to the great and growing population of the metropolitan Bay Area and is plainly needed for recreation purposes and for what President Johnson called in his State of the Union message "the protection of our green legacy for tomorrow."



"... and we want a Great Society that LOOKS like a great society!"

San Francisco Bay, the Golden Gate Bridge and the magnificent, breath-taking views of sea, sky and green hills belong—as do the Palisades—to everyone. The destruction of this panorama to make money for land speculators and builders would be another unforgivable desecration. It would be all the more tragic since the old Army forts below this private property are about to be transformed into state parks.

Meanwhile, the unrestrained filling of marsh, tidal and submerged lands has raised a serious threat to the future existence of the bay itself. A committee of the California Legislature notes that in the last hundred years filling has shrunk the bay from 568 square miles to less than 325. It warns: "If this process continues in the absence of a responsible plan, in another generation the bay will cease to exist as a major element of the San Francisco Bay region."

On the officials of Marin County, Gov. Edmund Brown and the California Legislature rests major responsibility for action to preserve intact the sparkling waters of San Francisco Bay and the beauty of the surrounding skyline, which for so long have been part of the American legend.

THE NEW YORK TIMES, SUNDAY, JANUARY 31, 1965.

The Golden Gate and the Hudson

In Marin County, Calif., just north of San Francisco, a controversy is under way in which all Americans have a stake.

Real estate developers are proposing to build a cluster of tall apartment houses and light industrial plants along the ridge which forms the skyline above the Golden Gate Bridge. Californians who realize that these steep wooded hills, now green and undeveloped, are a priceless and irreplaceable heritage of beauty are rallying to oppose this project.

New Yorkers can readily understand their concern. We lost a similar battle here three years ago to prevent the erection of a succession of thirty-story apartment houses atop the Palisades.

The "developers" won, and New York—and all civilized people everywhere—lost one of the most beautiful river views in existence. That was the southwesterly view of the George Washington Bridge and the Palisade skyline from just below the toll station on the Henry Hudson Parkway—a vista of bridge, river and cliffs unforgettable to anyone who bothered to look. Now that view is hopelessly marred by the row of huge apartment houses standing like so many squat, ugly robots jabbing into the sky just under the great gentle arc of the bridge as it stretches across the river.

*Kalalau and Honapu
Valleys on the Na Pali Coast.
Photos for this
article are by the author.*

Proposal for a Kauai National Park

By Robert Wenkam



IN OCTOBER, 1964, Secretary of the Interior Stewart Udall leaned on the protective railing at Kalalau Valley lookout on the island of Kauai. The swirling mist parted for a moment and a rainbow arched across Na Pali, linking the tropical green uplands with the eroded reddish-brown cliffs below. Mr. Udall turned to the author and exclaimed—Get me the papers. I'll sign the proclamation right now.

The proclamation he spoke of would bring into the National Park system some of the most varied and striking semitropical country in the world—the land within the proposed Kauai National Park. Bounded by Barking Sands beach and the Na Pali cliffs to the west and north, Mount Waialeale and Alakai swamp to the east, and Waimea Canyon to the south and west, are approximately 73 square miles of rolling hills, deep hidden valleys, sheer seaside cliffs, and a botanist's paradise.

A striking example of the climatic extremes recorded within the proposed park area are the rainfall figures for Barking Sands and Mount Waialeale. Mount Waialeale, which rises to a summit of 5,100 feet almost in the center of Kauai, is the rainiest bit of land in the world. It has an average rainfall of almost 500 inches per year. Several years ago, 950 inches of rain fell on the mountain in 365 days. Yet 17 air miles away, at Barking Sands Beach, the average rainfall is only 15 inches per year.

The white coral sand of Barking Sands beach stretch for five miles along the west coast of Kauai, ending abruptly at the sacred Polihale Springs. From the springs, cliffs rise 2,000 feet to the cinder plateau highlands. These cliffs front the ocean for fifteen miles along the northwest coast of the island, cut sharply in many places by deep, narrow valleys, many inaccessible except by small boat or helicopter. One of these valleys is Ka-

lalu Valley, where only thirty-four years ago Hawaiian natives lived in stone villages, now covered by lush plant growth. Towering thousands of feet above the mango and kukui nut trees that grow on the floor of this valley are the eroded, almost vertical valley walls, swept by mist. In the early morning and late evening hours, these cliffs are sharply outlined by the sunlight that breaks through the cloud layers along the valley rim. A few miles farther up the coast is Hanakoa Valley and the magnificent sight of a stream of water that drops 2,000 feet from the plateau rim and twists languorously along the valley floor, shaded on its course to the sea by red-blossomed groves of mountain apple trees.

Mr. Wenkam, a professional photographer in Honolulu and a long-time resident of Hawaii, is the Federation of Far Western Outdoor Clubs' vice-president for the Islands.



Kalalau Beach on the Na Pali Coast of Kauai

Alakai swamp, which covers twenty square miles of plateau land just southeast of the Na Pali coast, became a swamp more because of its heavy rainfall and slow run-off than a lack of drainage. Alakai is rich in endemic and exotic plant genera, including species of grasses, sedges, violets, orchids, and lobelias found nowhere else in the world. Three species of birds—the Kauai creeper, the Akialoa, and the Nukupuu—are found only in Alakai. The Akialoa and the Nukupuu

are regarded by ornithologists as the world's best examples of adaptive radiation. They persist precariously, in constant danger of extinction from environmental alteration and the introduction of exotic plants.

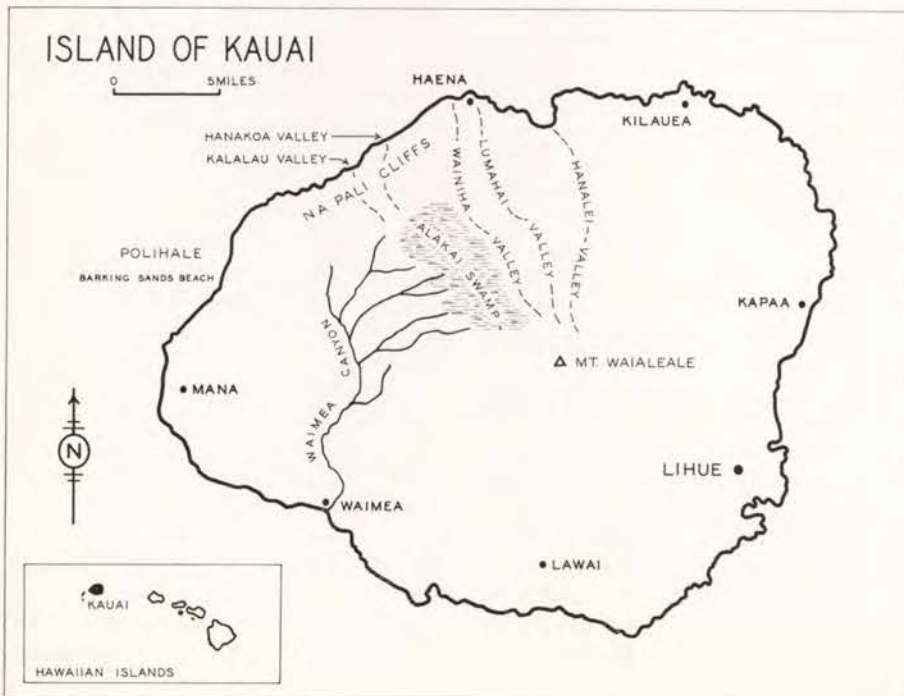
Eons ago, streams flowing from Alakai began carving into the volcanic rock between their source and the sea. Finally flowing together they cut what is known today as Waimea Canyon, through which, 2,500 feet below the canyon rim, the spar-

ling Waimea River runs. From the canyon floor one can see in the western wall the thin-bedded lavas that made up the bulk of the ancient volcanic mountain that is now the island of Kauai. The east wall is composed of thicker layers of lava that were formed within the volcanic caldera. Over both these walls, as well as over the ridges that run from them to the canyon floor, are spread the oranges, reds, cinders, and browns of decomposed lava, broken into innumerable patterns by fringes of grass and green gulches of kukui. More than 200,000 people a year visit the Waimea Canyon State Park for a sight of this beautiful canyon and the geological history recorded there.

Throughout the entire proposed park land, a remarkable variety of flora can be found. Along canyon edges the Kauai greensword grows, and on the drier slopes the native white hibiscus tree, the only fragrant hibiscus. There are six endemic lobelios, including one with unusual blue flowers. Native sandalwood, virtually extinct on the other islands, is common on Kauai. Also in the native forests are scattered several varieties of palm tree, as well as passion fruit, wild plums, apples, lantana, and blackberries.

Introduced into the Kokee State Park section of the proposed national park, and thriving in their new habitat, are the Japanese pine, cypress, and silver oak, and the California redwood. Wild boar and goat live with many other forms of wildlife in the quiet jungle along the wind-swept cliffs.

At this time, only two improved look-out tour stops offer vistas of this vast land. The great wilderness is little known by even the local residents; few trails pierce its boundaries. Terrain and swamp discourage all but the hardest hunter. Yet the pressure of population growth and the attendant demand for recreation is slowly bringing about destructive and irreparable changes. Only the establishment of a wilderness park by the National Park Service can arrest this process and preserve the wild land of Kokee and Na Pali.



Indicated on this map are the major geographical features that the author feels should be included in a Kauai national park. Map by Alan Macdonald

Ninth Annual Wilderness Conference

SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR Stewart Udall, political analyst and commentator Albert Burke, author and anthropologist Loren Eiseley, and chiefs of major land resources and recreation agencies are among the nationally known figures who will speak at the Ninth Biennial Wilderness Conference at the San Francisco Hilton Hotel. During the first two days of the conference, April 2nd and 3rd, "Wilderness in a Changing World," the conference theme, will be discussed formally and informally from many points of view. On the final day, April 4th, there will be a conservation field trip which will include an exploratory outing, picnic lunch, and a dedication of the Dag Hammarskjold Grove of redwoods which has been scheduled by the Save-the-Redwoods League in conjunction with the Wilderness Conference. (Because of flood damage in northern California, this ceremony will be held in Muir Woods National Monument, Marin County.)

The Wilderness Conference is a unique and important educational activity of the Sierra Club. There is no comparable conservation forum anywhere, and no better place to gain an understanding of the significance of wilderness, and its place among our scenic resources. In a span of two days, it is possible to hear an unparalleled exchange of ideas and opinions of some of the nation's most knowledgeable and distinguished conservationists.

The conferences were initiated at a modest meeting of some 100 people in Berkeley in 1949, when discussion focused on the immediate problems of the Sierra Nevada. Since that time, the scope and size of these biennial meetings have increased greatly, the most recent conferences having attracted an attendance of over 1,000 people. The themes of the past three conferences, "The Meaning of Wilderness to Science" (6th Conference), "Wilderness, America's Living Heritage" (7th Conference), and "Tomorrow's Wilderness" (8th Conference), indicate the breadth of concern of these sessions.

(The proceedings of these conferences, published in book form with handsome illustrations, are titled by theme—as noted above—and are available at your book store or through the club. They are invaluable background for attendance at the coming conference.)

The Planning Committee of the 9th Conference has been at work since March, 1964, preparing the program and arranging for the group of outstanding speakers who will participate. Peggy Wayburn, general secretary of the past two conferences, chairs this committee, and members include: Randal Dickey, Jr., lawyer, and chairman of the Club Conservation Committee; James Gilligan, Extension Forester, University of California; Robert Golden, Sierra Club Staff; Chauncey Leake, Professor Emeritus of Pharmacology, University of California Medical Center, and past president, American Association for the Advancement of Science; T. Eric Reynolds, physician, and past president of the California Conservation Council; Will Siri, physicist to the Donner Laboratory, University of California, and president of the Sierra Club; and Edgar Wayburn, physi-

cian, and past president of the Sierra Club.

"Wilderness in Crisis" is the topic of the first conference session, which opens on the morning of Friday, April 2, with Will Siri as keynoter. Economic development, population pressure, and scarcity of water, all put pressures on the wilderness. How is wilderness affected by these forces and products of change? Seeking the answers will be Luna Leopold, chief hydrologist of the United States Geological Survey; John Condliffe, director of basic research at the Stanford Research Institute; and Lincoln Day, a professor in the Harvard School of public health and author of *Too Many Americans*.

Friday's luncheon speaker will be Albert Burke, probably best known for his provocative national television news commentaries. Mr. Burke was director of
(Continued on page 7)

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In spaces below, write number of reservations desired for each conference event. If using this form for more than one person, please send a separate sheet naming each person and conference events each will attend

	Number of Reservations	
Special Package for all conference events (including meals and field trip) for reservations received by March 20.....	_____ @ \$23.00	
Registration only:		
Adult	_____ @ \$ 4.00	
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Luncheon, Friday, April 2	_____ @ \$ 4.25	
Banquet, Friday, April 2	_____ @ \$ 6.50	
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A contribution to help defray conference costs is needed, welcome, and tax-deductible	\$ _____	
My check (payable to Sierra Club) enclosed for	(Total) \$ _____	
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Check boxes for information desired. <input type="checkbox"/> Please send information on hotel reservations. <input type="checkbox"/> Please send information on reserving a table for ten at the banquet.		
Mail this registration form, a self-addressed envelope, and your check to Sierra Club, P.O. Box 3471, Rincon Annex, San Francisco, California 94119. For additional information ask Sierra Club, YUkon 2-2822, 1050 Mills Tower, San Francisco 94104		

The Story of the National Tribute Grove

By Russell D. Butcher

IN OCTOBER, 1963, the California Division of Highways held a public hearing in Crescent City, Del Norte County, concerning two freeway route alternatives in the vicinity of Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park. One route would have done more damage than the other to the park and to lands long proposed for addition to it. But both routes—the only ones presented to the people of California—cut through nearly one mile of the park's famed National Tribute Grove, through some of the finest primeval redwoods to be found anywhere. Shortly after the hearing, the State Highway Commission adopted the route considered by conservationists to be the "lesser

of two evils," with no evidence that any of the possible alternatives bypassing the park had been studied. The Division of Beaches and Parks—without adequate study—also approved the route.

Because a dispute arose at the close of 1964 over whether or not the portion of the state park affected by the freeway route was in fact part of the Tribute Grove, the Sierra Club believes it would be helpful to present a brief summary of events regarding grove establishment.

* * * * *

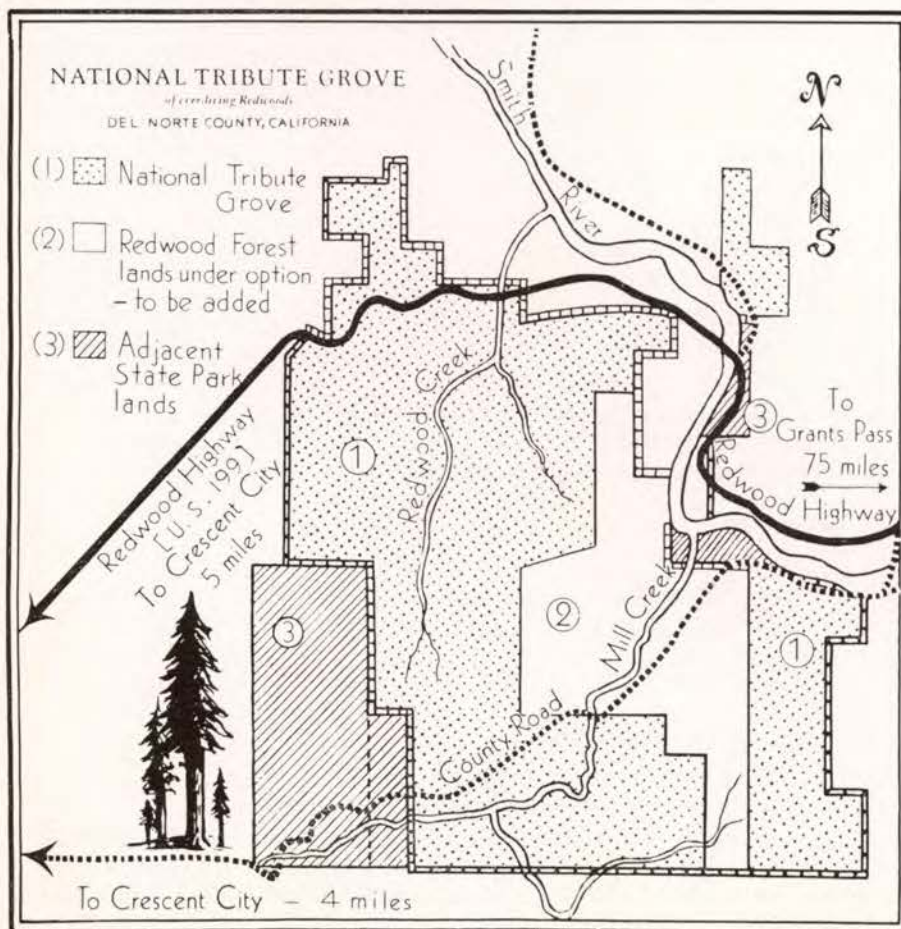
On February 23–24, 1945, the California State Park Commission adopted the following resolution:

"Resolved, that the California State

Park Commission, in accordance with its established policy of naming redwood groves within the State Park System, gives the name NATIONAL TRIBUTE GROVE to all redwood forest lands in the Mill Creek Redwoods State Park (now Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park), Del Norte County, not yet bearing names as memorial groves—this NATIONAL TRIBUTE GROVE being established and preserved in honor of the men and women of the armed services of the United States in World War II; and further, Resolved, that Redwood forest lands added to this State Park under terms of the purchase option now in effect, shall be designated as parts of the NATIONAL TRIBUTE GROVE."

The first two parts of the National Tribute Grove, comprising 5,584 acres, included the land now along the adopted freeway route at the northern end of the park. This is verified by the map attached to the State Park Commission minutes and by other official maps. Between 1945 and 1949, other parcels totaling 1,400 acres were added to the southern section of the park to complete the nearly 7,000-acre memorial grove.

The initial suggestion of a National Tribute Grove came from the Garden Club of America, which was subsequently active in the task of fund-raising. One of the later units of the grove was made possible through the generosity of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Over 4,000 individuals from every state



This official Save-the-Redwoods League map accompanied a spring, 1945, League bulletin on the National Tribute Grove. Lands marked #2 on the map were added to the National Tribute Grove between 1945 and 1949, bringing the total area of the grove to 7,000 acres. A slightly later version of this map was attached to the February 23–24, 1945, State Park Commission minutes.

in the union contributed to the National Tribute Grove.

Leading the fund-raising effort for the Save-the-Redwoods League was the late Aubrey Drury. Following establishment of the initial two units he once wrote: "This grove selected as the National Tribute is noble and majestic, a true wilderness area, yet notable also for its accessibility. It is traversed by the Redwood Highway,* a main route of travel, and the forest may be entered from the highway by auxiliary roads as well. . . . Selection of the grove and decision on its boundaries," he noted, "were determined by the commission upon the advice of Frederick Law Olmsted, internationally-known landscape architect who made the basic State Park survey for California, and who for this project made a survey of the entire northern redwood belt. More than 5,000 acres of the finest redwoods are included in the National Tribute Grove, comprising an area appropriate to the great purpose it is to serve."

* * * * *

In a September 17, 1964, letter to Governor Edmund G. Brown, Dr. Edgar Wayburn, Sierra Club vice-president, noted that at the October 1963 Division of Highways hearing on the proposed Jedediah Smith freeway, the Save-the-

* A two-lane park-type roadway.

Redwoods League, the National Park Service, the Sierra Club and others urged that park bypass routes be thoroughly studied and presented for discussion. "No studies were ever offered of alternative routes," Dr. Wayburn pointed out, "and on December 28, 1963, the California Highway Commission adopted one of the original routes—which would cut a mile through the virgin forest—one of the spectacular parts of Jedediah Smith park. Conservationists were appalled at the haste with which this matter was decided . . . but were then assured that construction would not begin for several years, 'perhaps not for a decade.'" This original assurance, Dr. Wayburn noted, has since been completely altered by the Division of Highways which has now given top priority to construction of this route and has already placed route markers along the entire length of the freeway through the park's tribute grove.

In response to this letter, on November 2 Governor Brown wrote that the freeway route "avoids the National Tribute Grove." And in the September-October, 1964, *California Highways and Public Works* magazine published by the Division of Highways appeared a similar statement: "Jedediah Smith has had considerable publicity because of reports of a 'freeway to be cut through the National Tribute Grove,' although the route adopt-

ed was agreed to and even endorsed by the State Division of Beaches and Parks. Actually, the route passes from one-third of a mile to one mile north of the north limit of the National Tribute Grove."

This information was corrected, however, at the public hearing on December 16, 1964, before the State Senate Fact Finding Committee on Natural Resources, when Charles A. DeTurk, director of the Department of Parks and Recreation, told the committee he had erred in announcing the planned freeway would not go through the National Tribute Grove. According to a report in the *Sacramento Bee*, "DeTurk said the mistake, unintentional, resulted from a staff report which led him to believe that the portion of the park through which the freeway will travel was outside the boundaries of the tribute grove. Actually, he said, all of the park land not previously dedicated was dedicated in 1945 as part of the tribute grove."

With the boundary dispute settled, a number of other witnesses at the same hearing strongly urged that bypass alternatives be thoroughly studied (see *Sierra Club Bulletins* for October, 1963; May, June, September, and November, 1964), and chairman of the committee, Senator Fred S. Farr (Dem.-Monterey) said that he wants the route changed to save the priceless primeval redwoods in the grove.

Wilderness Conference

(Continued from page 5)

graduate studies in Conservation and Resource Use at Yale University, has worked and lived with the Indians of the Southwest, has traveled extensively and lived for two years in Russia, and is an authority on conservation as well as geography, geopolitics, and world affairs.

The Friday afternoon session will explore the "Impact of Technology" on wilderness. The speakers for this session will include: James Bonner, professor of biology at the California Institute of Technology and co-author of *The Next Hundred Years*; Paul Brooks, editor-in-chief of Houghton Mifflin Company and author of the recently published book, *Roadless Area*; John Blatnik, Congressman from Minnesota and sponsor of important anti-pollution legislation; and A. J. Haagen-Smit, professor of chemistry at the California Institute of Technology and a member of the Presi-

dent's Scientific Advisory Committee. Dr. Clark Kerr, president of the University of California, will chair Friday's banquet.

Botanist Paul Sears, recently retired chairman of the Yale Conservation Program and past president of the Ecological Society of America, will keynote Saturday's program. The morning session Saturday will consider "The Outlook for Wilderness" and will be addressed by Edward Cliff, chief of the United States Forest Service, Edward Crafts, director of the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation, and George Hartzog, director of the National Park Service. They will discuss the impact of such recent legislation as the Wilderness Act and the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act. Albert Lepawsky, professor of political science at the University of California will present the point of view of the political scientist. Secretary of the Interior Udall is scheduled as speaker for the Saturday luncheon.

The Saturday afternoon session, "The

Significance of Wilderness," will conclude the first two days of the conference. At that session the speakers will be: University Professor of Anthropology and the History of Science at the University of Pennsylvania and author of *The Immense Journey*; Sigurd Olson, naturalist, author, and member of the National Parks Advisory Board; and William Gribson, Department of the History of Medicine and Science, University of British Columbia. Harold Gilliam, conservation journalist and author of *Island In Time*, will summarize the conference. All conference sessions are open to the public.

The Wilderness Conference has always enjoyed the support of many friends, including organizations that are only indirectly concerned with conservation. However, as the conference grows, so do its expenses! Funds are urgently needed for the coming conference. Donations of any amount are most welcome and are, of course, tax deductible.

PEGGY WAYBURN

The Redwoods Report: A Proposed National Park

Part II



In the November, 1964, SCB, Clyde Thomas analyzed the National Park Service interim report on the redwoods and the proposals contained in that report for a redwood national park. Mr. Thomas spoke as a Sierra Club member who for many years has studied the problems associated with virgin redwood logging and virgin redwood preservation.

Now, in the following letter, Dr. Edgar Wayburn, vice-president of the Sierra Club, offers the club's official evaluation of the Park Service report. His letter was written in response to a request for comment on the report directed to the Sierra Club by Edward A. Hummel, western regional director of the Park Service.

Dear Mr. Hummel:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the National Park Service brochure, *The Redwoods*, and the alternative plans for a redwood national park that are presented in it.

The Sierra Club wishes to commend the National Park Service for the careful field work, detailed study, and thoughtful analysis that are summarized in the brochure. In a quiet, factual manner the brochure presents the story of the redwood forests, the climate and ecology that are responsible for them, and the effect of man on them. The statistics, perhaps the most complete that have been gathered on the redwoods as a whole, point up the restricted geography and limited acreage of these unique forests. They accentuate the reasons why, in our opinion, primeval redwood forests should be treated differently from commercial pine and Douglas fir. The volume and

acreage of second growth pine and fir will produce lumber products of quality equal or superior to that of second growth redwood in more than adequate supply for the next forty years and the foreseeable future.

We find ourselves in general agreement with the study and with the broad conclusions about the redwood situation as it stands today. The primeval coastal redwoods of Northern California are an extraordinary part of our natural heritage and one that, almost incomprehensibly, is not protected by a great national park. The acceleration of the harvest rate of old growth redwood during the past twenty years has resulted in a relentless destruction of this unique resource. We are now faced with the last opportunity to preserve any significant amount of it for the nation. The comparatively limited amount of primeval redwood left and the millennia that are needed to reproduce the primeval forest add to the urgency of immediate action.

A major redwood national park should be established as soon as possible. As the study points out so well, the practical opportunities for preservation of primeval redwood forests are limited. With regard to the areas described in the report, namely upper Mill Creek and lower Redwood Creek, we would comment that even the best and most comprehensive plan, Plan 1, is not adequate. Plan 1 is inadequate because it falls too far short of watershed protection—one of the major criteria recognized by the Park Service Study.

However, we agree that a major redwood national park should be established in the Redwood Creek-Prairie Creek area. It is imperative, nonetheless, that

the boundaries of Plan 1 be enlarged to include the entire lower Redwood Creek basin, extending upstream to encompass the watersheds of Bridge Creek and Devil Creek, stretching from Coyote Peak to the east of Redwood Creek across to Rodgers Peak on the west. The boundary should extend 100 to 200 feet below the ridge line on the outside in order to afford scenic protection. The watersheds of Lost Man Creek and Little Lost Man Creek as well as that of the existing Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park should be included in this acquisition. It would be desirable to take in the as yet virgin forest of Skunk Cabbage Creek. Federal acquisition of the ridges around the town of Orick would also be wise since this town is the logical headquarters of the park. We agree that the park in this area should extend westward to the ocean since this would enhance the national park value of the area as a whole. Freshwater and Stone Lagoons along the coast would also add greatly to the park's potential as a center for varied enjoyment by the visitor.

We believe that it is equally imperative that the entire watershed of Mill Creek be preserved as a redwood park. Whereas Redwood Creek is an extremely long and comparatively narrow watershed, the watershed of Mill Creek is much more compact, and is still eminently suitable for preservation and development as a major and significant redwood park. Retention of the entire watershed in a park would likewise protect the existing public investment in the magnificent redwoods of Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park. These are in jeopardy otherwise from the danger of upstream logging, a danger already tragically realized

in the Rockefeller Forest of Humboldt Redwoods State Park, as noted on page 30 of the report.

None of the plans offered by the study include outright acquisition of the entire upper Mill Creek watershed. The brochure states that there is hope that, "Reasonable and acceptable safeguards can be worked out in a co-ordinated management plan with commercial forest interests. If this formula could not be negotiated or should prove ineffective, it might well raise again the consideration of whether public ownership of additional upstream acreage is necessary."

Similarly in the Redwood Creek drainage you apparently hope that reasonable safeguards against erosion and stream damage can be worked out through a sound management plan for the watershed. In our opinion this is wishful thinking. By the time the damage would be recognized the situation would be too far gone, even as it was when the Rockefeller Forest lost some 500 giant trees after the Bull Creek floods of 1955.

The Sierra Club's first great battle in conservation was joined to preserve the Grand Canyon of the Tuolumne River from the Hetch Hetchy Dam and Reservoir. This battle was lost fifty years ago because of the false premise that a canyon like Hetch Hetchy existed in the Yosemite Valley and only one was needed. The National Park Service knows only too well today how valuable Hetch Hetchy would be to relieve the overcrowding that overwhelms the Yosemite Valley. We face a singularly similar issue

in the preservation of Redwood Forest now.

Redwood Creek and Mill Creek are the major remaining areas in which we can still provide for adequate preservation of old growth redwood forests, and the preservation of such forests is the significant national opportunity with which we are now concerned. If we do not take advantage of these opportunities now, it will soon be too late. Many of the primeval redwoods in even these two basins have already been logged, and logging is now proceeding at an accelerated rate, particularly since the announcement of this report.

We agree with the remaining suggestions of the National Park Service report concerned with the acquisition of superb redwoods for scenic parkways, such as the Pepperwood Grove as an extension of the Avenue of the Giants and along the Van Duzen River. At the same time, we point out that the preservation of magnificent redwood giants along a road, without protection of the natural forest, may offer only short-term benefits and that their purchase gives no real assurance of their perpetuation.

Although not suggested in the Park Service study, protection of the lower Klamath River for its scenic and recreational values would also be highly desirable. The area involved includes the stretch of the river from the boundary of the Hoopa Indian Reservation to Klamath Glen, already largely cut over, and the superb partially logged watershed of Blue Creek.

Hawaii Outing

From April 8 to April 18, Sierra Club hikers and campers will visit the beaches, canyons, and semi-tropical forests of Kauai and Maui. Waimea Canyon, the valleys of the Na Pali coast, and the beaches near Haena will be on the itinerary of the trip. For more information, or reservations, see the Nov. *SCB* or get in touch with the Sierra Club, 1050 Mills Tower, San Francisco 94104, YUkon 2-2822.

The cost of land acquisition for an adequate national park may be high. However, we suggest that the preservation of such an important part of our scenic heritage is worth a fraction—indeed a minute fraction—of the cost of putting a man on the moon.

We understand that the establishment of a national park in the redwood region could cause short-term disruption in the local economy. We feel that the people and the industries involved should have fair and just compensation for any losses, whether this be in the form of *in lieu* taxes, direct payments, or otherwise. This should be thoroughly explored. If the entire nation is to benefit, none of its citizens should be made to suffer. We feel that the long-term advantages to the citizens of the region are great and that they, like others who have lived in a region where national parks have been established, will profit.

EDGAR WAYBURN, M.D.

Hugh Nash Becomes Publications Manager

On February 1, 1965, Bruce M. Kilgore, Managing Editor of the club's publications program since June, 1960, began 18 months of intensive work on his doctorate in zoology at the University of California. During this period he will continue to serve the club as a special assistant on conservation matters. Mr. Kilgore has been editor of the *Sierra Club Bulletin*, Managing Editor of the club's book program, and Secretary of the Publications Committee. He has also represented the club on many conservation issues at hearings and meetings in various parts of the west. For the past 18 months he has been working toward his degree on a part-time basis, but now plans to devote nearly full time to his dissertation work

—a research project involving wildlife and Big Trees at Whitaker's Forest, near Kings Canyon National Park, California.

Hugh Nash, formerly Associate Editor and Circulation Promotion Manager of *Architectural Forum*, replaced Mr. Kilgore as Editor of the *Bulletin* and Managing Editor of the Sierra Club publications. Prior to his 11 years with *Architectural Forum*, a Time Inc. publication, Mr. Nash worked for two years as Associate Editor of *Inside Carrier* and four years as Associate Editor of *World Government News*. His acquaintance with the Sierra Nevada dates back to student days at Deep Springs Junior College, near Bishop, Calif. He was an active member of the club's Atlantic Chapter.

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Book Reviews

MAN ON EARTH. *A new journal edited and published by S. P. R. Charter, Olema, California. \$7.50 per annum, 10 issues*

In this age of burgeoning knowledge and an even more overwhelming deluge of printed pages, the appearance of yet another new periodical is ordinarily an event hardly worth more than a moment's notice. But when one appears that purports to be "... a periodical on Human Ecology—on Man's interrelationship with his total environment . . .", then clearly something extraordinary has happened and thoughtful persons will want to consider its merits carefully. Conservationists in particular will wish to reflect on its potential contribution to understanding man's ecological role.

Mr. S. P. R. Charter has apparently felt the need for more formal discourse in this area, and in his concern has initiated *Man on Earth* to be published ten times per year. His title page explains that this is to be "... an individual effort; it is neither a Committee nor Center nor Institute group-effort." And if the first issue is any indication of the future course Charter has in mind for his fledgling publication, it will not only be an individual effort, but an intensely personal one. Issue number one, which appeared in January, consists of two essays both by Charter himself. The second issue is likewise billed as containing two articles, but their authors are not listed. Presumably these will also be by the editor-publisher, who incidentally writes in a style seldom seen nowadays. Hyphenated words and capitalized nouns abound (in this sense he reminds me just a little of C. M. Goethe). We have for example "Data-Pile," "population-pressures," "Young President," "Man," and even "Togetherness."

The influence of Aldous Huxley shows clearly in this first issue, and there is much echoing of the views of this great humanist. The first article in fact is taken from the First Aldous Huxley Memorial Lecture, delivered in San Francisco on November 22, 1964. It is entitled "Men of Science and Men of Letters: the Mutual Rejectors." In this, Charter discusses at length the two-cultures question, now such a popular

concern with the more or less aware fraction of Western Society. His own particular tack in this debate is to simultaneously prod the "men of letters" to take a greater lead in interpreting and explaining science in the interests of understanding man's role and purpose in the universe (Cosmic Awareness as he calls it), and to berate the "men of science" for their general lack of literacy and the frantic pace at which they discover new information and then fail to pause and consider its larger meaning. A sentiment with which it is difficult to disagree. However, in making his point he discloses a surprisingly superficial awareness of the nature of scientific research, and thus inadvertently provides additional evidence for the importance of continued efforts at increasing understanding between the "two cultures." He reacts with contempt to some of the publicized superficialities of science such as elaborate instrumentation, commercialized gadgetry, the drive for publication and recognition among scientists, and the incessant globe-trotting of an increasing number. Along with this precipitant view of science there is a natural tendency to confuse science with technology (as does the press generally), and Charter says "science . . . is becoming virtually indistinguishable from technology."

As a scientist myself, I am probably guilty of the bias deplored by Charter, but I cannot help feeling that he overstates his case when he claims that poetry and the novel are the "only instrumentation capable of presenting Man to himself." He goes on to explain, however, that even these two media can only contribute to unawareness if they deny the impact of science and technology. The essay can probably best be summarized in Charter's own words: "Men of letters can fear or ignore this rich mountain of raw material [modern science] for their creativity only at the risk of becoming increasingly bewildered and eventually sterile. Men of science can reject the poetry and human implications of science only at the risk of castrating themselves from reality and thereby threatening their own continuity." Certainly not a very fruitful prospect.

This leads me to the second article,

which is called "The Choice and The Threat" (from Chapt. 1 of *The Choice*), and is concerned with the human population explosion. This is a much more interesting essay than the first, but Charter again reveals a certain superficiality when he states that "population-pressures never before existed for Man on Earth." The historical and anthropological literature is replete with evidence that overpopulation has frequently plagued mankind, but of course only now has it reached such a magnitude that the very existence of man is thereby threatened. At the outset Charter recognizes the ecological inseparability of human populations from the rest of nature, and then goes on to raise various important sociological questions such as the relationship between privacy and creativity, and the problem of reducing the birth rate while maintaining some sense of individuality for the regimented multitudes.

One can only offer encouragement to Charter in recognition of the high purpose and importance to which he has dedicated *Man on Earth*, and wish it complete success. However, in my judgment its chances of achieving just that will depend in large measure on its evolving into a forum of discussion with a very broad base of contributors.

W. Z. LIDICKER, JR.

Mr. Lidicker is an assistant professor of zoology at the University of California, Berkeley, and assistant curator of the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology there.

THE AGE OF MOUNTAINEERING. *By James Ramsey Ullman. Revised edition. Illustrated. 364 pages. J. B. Lippincott Company, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 1964. \$7.50*

James Ramsey Ullman is an excellent professional author and has long been a pioneer in American mountaineering literature. *The White Tower*, a fictional climbing story, is one of the best books of its type ever written. His most recent work, *Americans on Everest* is now available and should be read by all—climbers and non-climbers alike.

The Age of Mountaineering is based on Ullman's earlier book, *High Conquest*, and continues the story of mountaineering through the postwar years to the climbing of many Himalayan peaks. In

this new edition no changes were made in the main text, but a supplemental chapter has been added to bring the history up to date.

The book holds a wealth of adventure. From early ascents of Mount Blanc and the Matterhorn to the tragedies on the Eiger. From the Andes to the Rockies to the mysterious "Mountains of the Moon." And finally, the gigantic Himalaya. The book is so vast in scope that Ullman leads us from expedition to expedition—in many cases much too swiftly.

Ullman does not limit himself solely to accounts of climbs, but tries throughout to explain the climbers' philosophy, rewards, and attitudes toward the sport. Regretfully, in so doing, he has wrongly criticized many excellent German climbers and mountaineers, such as Toni Kurz, for example. He claims they climbed because of Nazi political motivations. While it is true that this may have been the stimulus for some German climbers, it is definitely not true of the much publicized German-Austrian party that perished on the Eiger in 1938. *The White Spider* by Heinrich Harrar more than clarifies this point with respect to Kurz and his ropemates. Many non-German lives have been lost on the Eiger's North Face. What motivates them? Since the initial publication of this book was in 1941, this may explain in part the aggressive anti-German feeling.

However, if this point can be overlooked, Ullman's work is great reading in all other respects. The additional chapter contains an account of the American Expedition to Everest and brief notes of other historic climbs. A series of photos and various appendices, including a reading list, complete the book.

AL MACDONALD

THE THOUSAND-MILE SUMMER.
By Colin Fletcher. Illustrated with photographs by the author. 207 pages. Howell-North Books, Berkeley, California, 1964. \$4.95

In early spring of 1958, Colin Fletcher began his six-month walk along California's eastern boundary. Four years later, around a campfire in the Northern Cascades, Sierra Club members asked him why he had undertaken such a feat. His answer was, "Why would you want to do the same thing?"

Now, six years later, Fletcher has answered the question more lucidly with the publication of *The Thousand-Mile*

Summer, an extraordinarily readable and perceptive account of six months of continuous backpacking from Mexico to Oregon. For most people, the loneliness of such a journey might be overwhelming; but Fletcher found it to be otherwise. "You do not grow lonely," he comments, "you pass over instead into an aloneness that leaves you free and content." Through a variety of experiences, he also came to a better understanding of himself and the ways of man.

In the early part of the trip, as he moved along the Colorado River in Southern California, Fletcher came upon several rattlesnakes. At that stage in his journey, these snakes were fascinating symbols of evil—creatures to photograph and then destroy. But by the time Fletcher was past Death Valley, what he had learned about rattlers and about himself, changed his feelings about the snakes: he began to see them more and more as snakes, less and less as creatures born of his own fears. "They're gentlemen," as one Ranger put it, "they'll give you warning if you give them half a chance. And they have their part to play in the balance of nature. Kill them off and you disturb all sorts of things."

Colin Fletcher is one of those individuals who has never lived a nine-to-five existence. He was born in Wales and educated in England. After service in World War II, he emigrated to Africa where he was a hotel manager, a farmer, and a chief engineer for a road construction crew. Eventually he worked his way to Vancouver, British Columbia, which for several years was his base for road building and prospecting trips into northern and western Canada.

It was the desire to lead such an unconventional life that put Fletcher on the path of his thousand-mile journey. Such a trip is obviously not for the average mountaineer, or even for one above average. For to make the kind of trip that Fletcher made is to expose oneself to inexcusable risks. Fortunately this hardy Welshman is also an inexcusable 'old woman' about the details of planning a walking trip and what little was left to chance went without incident. A sprained ankle or a missed water cache along his well-chosen check points could have caused considerable anxiety for those of us who occasionally search for overdue solo travelers.

The walk took six months, the book six years. It takes that long to put the

gigantic landscape of eastern California in perspective, and Fletcher has done so in a factual, entertaining way.

ROBERT V. GOLDEN

Mr. Golden is General Services and Outings Manager of the Sierra Club. A frequent traveler in the Sierra Nevada, he has led club trips to almost every area of the range.

EDITORS' NOTE: Sigurd Olson's review of Roadless Area by Paul Brooks, which appeared on page 16 of the November Bulletin, was reprinted by permission of Mr. Olson and The New York Times Company, © 1964.



CALIFORNIA CONDOR

Vanishing American

Written by Robert Easton and Dick Smith of Santa Barbara, both ardent naturalists and conservationists, this is a fine introduction to the history and present-day plight of the condor; it is also a sincere plea for the conservation and preservation of this giant of the sky.

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Objectivity on Pesticides—II

Editors:

Who influences whom, and with what, and how? I have a book manuscript in preparation, entitled "The Free and the Led." It is a sociological study of the post-*Silent Spring* literature with special reference to the flow of kinds of scientific knowledge to and from various social units of our human ecosystem. One introductory section is called "Anticipated Anti-Reaction," in which it is pointed out that in addition to various "direct" actions against *Silent Spring* and its scientific stand, "A blueprint also exists for various 'indirect' actions that involve (a) solidifying the allegiance of individuals and groups already or partly committed against the book; (b) winning over groups that have been 'neutral' or are by nature supposed to be neutral, such as newspapers and news magazines; and (c) openly infiltrating and influencing (the term 'brainwashing' is not applicable, though the difference is one of degree, not of kind) individuals and organizations which by nature should be at least resistant. If these entities can be won over through gullibility, or through simplicity or lack of sophistication, it happens." I do not by any means imply that the total social picture is master-minded by one dictator-individual or agency, any more than that Dr. Rachel Carson was herself manipulated by the Ecological Society of America (which on this subject has manipulated almost nothing) but only that individuals and social groups fit into broad trends and general patterns.

The Sierra Club now adds a little episode of its own (a letter by Dr. Leslie K. Wynston of the Max Planck Institute, Germany; October, 1964, *SCB*).

In late 1963, *American Scientist* (Society of the Sigma Xi) published a pesticide paper by nutritionist and biochemist Thomas H. Jukes. The editors were so heavily criticized for running this type of pesticide article that they decided to publish another paper presenting a broad ecosystemic and sociologic approach. I was invited to write that article.

"Pesticides—in Our Ecosystem" was published in the March issue of *American Scientist*. It has brought more mail to my desk in the short time since publication than any other of my 130-odd professional articles, from all over the world, from many different disciplines. There has not been a single letter written to me that was adversely critical, and many were far to the other extreme.

I have seen all letters written to the editors of *American Scientist*, which included a bare handful that were opposed to my paper. By far the longest, the most condemnatory, and most delightfully emotional . . . was a

letter from biochemist Leslie Wynston, dated August 17th, who referred to 30 marked instances, plus others, which were errors or to which he took exception. This sounded interesting, so I wrote asking him to red-pencil an enclosed reprint. Dr. Wynston did mark about thirty places, not one of which is in the class of a factual scientific error. Of one he says "very good point!" Of another, he triply underlines "O.K.!" and another "How true!" I was amazed that he did not consider "herbicide" as one kind of "pesticide," an error I have always attributed to uninformed laymen. Concerning the three charts and the long legends that were the factual and experimental core of my paper, he did not see red at all. I wrote to the editors of *American Scientist*, enclosing the correspondence, offering to reply in print, but indicating that the differences between Dr. Wynston and myself were little more than what unfortunately will always exist between a laboratory-oriented biochemist who is concerned with the "facts" of his "designed experiments," and an ecosystem ecologist who is operating on a vastly larger stage in time and place, with totally different methodologies, and making "generalizations," the exceptions to which he is by no means unaware. The editors declined.

Dr. Wynston sent a letter to the editors of the *Sierra Club Bulletin*, a magazine serving a conservation society so eminent in its field and in its stand against the unwise use of pesticides that the late Rachel Carson named it as one of her two organization heirs. The *Bulletin* published this letter praising "Dr. Tom Jukes" (obviously a friend), and strongly belittling an author who actually is in close accord with what have been Sierra Club policies. Whether or not the editors read both papers themselves first, I do not know. Certainly, they chose to let a scientist be damned in the eyes of their readers, without first communicating with that scientist. This is an editor's prerogative.

The role of broad-spectrum pesticides in our total human ecosystem is a challenging scientific problem. For the observing sociologist, it is also absorbing. A fascinating tale. On the subject of influencing, who does what, and with what, and to whom.

FRANK E. EGLER
Aton Forest
Norfolk, Connecticut

We did not choose to let Dr. Egler be damned nor wish to see belittled the position he eloquently put forth in "Pesticides—in Our Ecosystem" (Amer. Sci., March 1964, q.v.). We simply need to improve our procedures for letters about controversies.

Our past pieces about pesticides make clear that the club strongly favors careful research on effects prior to use; the club recognizes the danger to native faunas in broad-casting of pesticides—and recognizes that its members, and other people too, are part of the faunas endangered.

It is the consensus of the principal conservation organizations that the most important conservation issue for 1965 is the pesticide-herbicide question and its effect on the environment here and abroad. From what we have read of Dr. Egler, we're not sure whether we read him first or he us. Conservationists, including about 26,985 of our own members, would like to hear more from him—much more than in a letter stimulated by our lack of procedures. Never have so many needed so much a vastly improved perspective on what man's enormously financed knowledge of chemistry is doing to his impoverished inquiries into ecology.—D.B.

The Facts on Rampart Dam

Editors:

For the sake of factual accuracy, I would like to correct some of the statements on the proposed Rampart Dam on the Yukon River that were made by our venerable and respected Sierran, Dr. Bradley, in the October *Sierra Club Bulletin*. I hope you will allow your readers to judge for themselves on the basis of giving the other side of the picture.

Dr. Bradley cites as his authority for all the negative remarks he makes about Rampart an unnamed officer of the Public Health Service. I am sorry he did not look farther than this flimsy source. If he had, he would have learned that the market for power from Rampart has been studied by the Resources and Development Corporation of New York headed by David Lilienthal. The alleged destruction of the Yukon salmon runs above the dam is, according to some authorities, merely a figment of the imagination of the Fish and Wildlife Service. Studies are now under way by competent biologists to refute the FWS propagandistic report on the fisheries that would be affected by the dam. The native groups would not be left in the lurch by the dam. As a matter of fact, most of them are on the dole now, and their chances of gaining self-dependence would be enhanced by Rampart. Finally, it is just not true that a majority of Alaskans are opposed to the dam or are apathetic about it, or consider it a boondoggle.

The five million kilowatts of power that would be generated at Rampart will be needed at the turn of the next century, when the

full reservoir will be available, not only in Alaska but—believe it or not—in your own backyard of California. By then the power systems of the western half of the United States will be integrated with each other and with those of British Columbia and Alaska, all feeding low-cost public power into the appliances and gadgets on which the members of the Sierra Club depend for their pleasant way of life. It is not a joke anymore that some day housewives in Los Angeles or Berkeley—perhaps your grandchildren—will fry their breakfast eggs with juice from the far-off Yukon. As for the alleged loss of wilderness Rampart would bring, I am sure anyone who has been in Alaska must agree that there is plenty of wilderness and to spare for centuries *without* the upper Yukon waterway.

ANTHONY NETBOY
Portland, Oregon

. . . And a Rebuttal

Harold Bradley, an honorary vice-president of the Sierra Club, has been active for many years in conservation matters, serving as club president from 1957 to 1959. During the summer of 1964, Dr. Bradley spent several weeks on the Yukon River in Alaska. The Bulletin editors asked Dr. Bradley to comment on Mr. Netboy's letter.

Mr. Netboy's comments on my previous statement concerning the Rampart dam project are both welcome and revealing. They mirror quite accurately the attitudes of my numerous pro-dam contracts in Anchorage and Fairbanks. They also recall the attitudes and arguments that prevailed in Vernal, Utah, in 1952, at the start of the battle to keep the dam builders out of Dinosaur National Monument.

We are all prone to prejudice. I suspect Mr. Netboy and I both qualify. He is prejudiced in favor of the dam. Obviously, as a conservationist, I am prejudiced against it—at *this time*. I recognize that sometime in the future this dam may indeed become a necessity—when the many sources of power available in Alaska today have been exhausted, or are inadequate for the demands. In the meantime and until unquestioned need does require its destruction, the Yukon Flats area should remain in escrow to continue its ages-old ecological functions and development.

No one who has travelled Alaska will quarrel with Mr. Netboy's statement that "there is plenty of wilderness and to spare" in Alaska. *That is in 1964*. It is well to recall, however, that in the States south of Alaska we have been proclaiming the same thing for our wilderness resources for a hundred years or more. Rather suddenly now, and too late, we are awake to the fact

that recreational wilderness is in short supply for our current population. Can we learn from this experience, or must we make the same mistake in Alaska?

The Yukon Flats stand out as an area unique in all North America for the richness of its biological resources, for its richness as a breeding and rearing area for water fowl, and for its moose, caribou, grizzly bear, mink, fox, beaver and other fur bearing animals that thrive among its thousands of lakes and ponds. It is approachable both by boat and float plane, and is traversed by the winding channels of the mighty Yukon, up which the salmon run in season to their ancient spawning grounds. To destroy this ecological "Island in Time" now, and until the need is demonstrable, would seem incredible stupidity.

One sentence of Mr. Netboy's letter warrants more serious attention. It is either an incredible error on his part, or a very revealing statement indeed. He writes: "*Studies are now under way by competent biologists to refute the FWS propagandistic report on the fisheries that would be affected by the dam.*" (Emphasis mine.) "Propagandistic" is one of those coined words that have shady connotations. Though I have not seen the report, it evidently indicates that the dam will affect adversely the Yukon salmon run. Since this seems to be the usual effect of large dams elsewhere, as on the Columbia, the Sacramento and other rivers, why should a warning of this predictable result be branded as "propagandistic"? The Fish and Wildlife Service would be derelict in its duty if it did not point out that loss of the fish runs will probably be one of the costs of the dam not itemized by the engineers. Fortunately for the public good, the Service has not been muzzled in its statements, as was the Park Service in the Dinosaur controversy!

The statement that "competent biologists" have been employed "to refute the FWS propagandistic report," is indeed a serious charge. From sixty-five years as student, research worker and teacher in the fields of chemistry and biology, I can assert categorically that competent scientists cannot be bought to bring in a predetermined result. Their studies are directed by a rigid ethic of absolute integrity. Their work and skills have a single goal—to ascertain the facts as accurately as possible—uninfluenced by the social, economic or political implications. We shall be interested in what they report. I wonder just how happy this team of biologists will be when they learn that their results, favorable to the dam project, have been bought and have now been given advance publicity by Mr. Netboy.

Finally, Mr. Netboy directs his crystal ball to the future, and shares with us his

prophetic vision. "It is not a joke anymore that some day a housewife in Los Angeles or Berkeley—perhaps your grandchildren—will fry their breakfast eggs with juice from the far-off Yukon." This is of course an interesting prediction and subject to all the hazards of that art. My own prejudiced crystal ball reveals a similar happy family scene "at the turn of the century," a long generation hence. The eggs will be frying, just as described, but the "juice" will come from the various units of the integrated power grid system, in which reactor juice will take the place of the sacrificial life blood of the Yukon Flats wilderness area, known perhaps by that time as the Rampart Game Refuge, a monument to prove that the human animal can learn, despite his prejudices.

HAROLD C. BRADLEY
Berkeley, California

The Major Drawback

Editors:

I have believed, for some time, that the major drawback to the development of good conservation practices is our expanding population. It has pleased me that some letters on this subject have appeared in recent *Sierra Club Bulletins*.

Conservation organizations have a two-fold job to perform; first, to inform people and take action on current proposals that stand in opposition to good land management, and second, to keep an eye on future trends. The first function is being carried out admirably, however I think that we could do with some fresh thinking on the second function. Can anyone project his thoughts into the decades to come without being shocked at the demands that people will exert on our already overcrowded natural areas? . . .

All our work to preserve some vestige of natural America will be swept under by the mere numbers of people if we divorce ourselves from the population question. If we in the Sierra Club and others in conservation organizations fail to speak, we are closing our eyes to the major problem that will soon prohibit any chance to, ". . . explore, enjoy and protect the nation's scenic resources . . .", that of the pressure of people.

There are bold schemes brewing for altering the face of North America for all time. A recent example is the Parsons Plan . . . for a vast artificial water-way from Alaska to Mexico. I think the time is here to be bolder and recognize the real issue: too many people placing increased demands on the world's resources. Granted, we can support a larger population, but think of the price we shall pay.

DONAL W. HALLORAN
Vancouver, British Columbia

Board Actions

On December 12, 1964, 14 members of the Board of Directors met in San Francisco. (Director Martin Litton was unable to attend.) First on the agenda were internal club affairs.

Club Matters

A club budget of \$1,247,600 was approved by the Board for 1965. President Siri informed the other directors that J. Michael McCloskey, northwest conservation representative, had been selected as assistant to the president. Mr. McCloskey will work out of the San Francisco office. President Siri also reported on the recent death of Honorary President William E. Colby and said that a suitable memorial will be planned. The Board then elected as the new honorary president, Walter A. Starr of San Francisco. Mr. Starr, who joined the Sierra Club in 1895, was a director from 1937 to 1948, and president from 1941 to 1943. He became an honorary vice-president in 1948. In recognition of his work for conservation, Mr. Starr received an award from the California Conservation Council in 1948, and the annual John Muir Award from the club in 1964 (see June, 1964, *SCB*). His other contributions to conservation are too numerous and varied to list here.

The appointment of the Nominating Committee for the 1965 Directors election was approved by the Board. The committee members are: Thomas Jukes (chairman), Ben Cummings, Clark Jones, Edward Little, Al Schmitz, Elmer Aldrich (alternate) and Einar Nilsson (alternate). Correspondence for the committee should be addressed to: Nominating Committee, Sierra Club, 1050 Mills Tower, San Francisco, California 94104.

The Board thanked the club Council for its review of the club dues situation and for its recommendations. Another annual dues category—Supporting Member with dues set at \$15—was added to those already existing. By another action the Board decided that all admission fees, except one, shall be waived for all members of an immediate family who join the club at one time.

Final approval of the formal presentation to membership vote of three initiative amendments to Bylaw IV and the accompanying pro and con arguments was referred to the Executive Committee. The Board itself then voted on the amendments, defeating all three. The amendments are designed essentially to limit consecutive membership on the Board to three terms; to give a clear statement of the unlimited right of members, when speaking as private citizens, to comment and criticize; and to publish the directors' voting records on issues that came before the Board.

Other Actions

Highways vs. Parks—Recommended that Section 103.5 of the Streets and Highways Code of the State of California be amended to read as follows: "The real property which the department may acquire by eminent domain, or otherwise, includes any property dedicated to park purposes, provided that when lands within the State Park System are to be acquired, the concurrence of the State Park Commission must first be obtained." (New wording in italics.) (For discussion of this section and other information on the powers of the Highway Commission see the June and November, 1964, *SCB's*.)

Recreational Use Impact—Authorized the president to appoint a special committee consisting of at least one representative of the Outing Committee, Conservation Committee, and Council, plus at least three other knowledgeable club members. The committee shall: (a) conduct an intensive study to determine the physical and esthetic impact on wilderness and wilderness values of the Sierra Nevada by outings of various size; (b) make general recommendations for the proper size, conduct and location for various types of outings conducted in the Sierra; and (c) develop general recommendations for the use of the Sierra back country.

Whooping Cranes—Opposed any attempt to rear captive whooping cranes from the eggs of wild birds primarily because the preservation of a wild species in its natural habitat is a much more desirable goal than the preservation of a species only as a creature of man; and because removal of the eggs might retard or even reverse the slow but encouraging growth that the whooping crane flock has enjoyed during the past few years.

California Condor—Urged that the United States Forest Service, in co-operation with the California Department of Fish and Game and other interested agencies, develop and enforce a complete management plan for the maximum protection of the California Condor; opposed construction of reservoirs, water projects, truck trails, or roads within or near the Sespe Condor Refuge; opposed vehicular travel by the public or any hunting on the Sierra Madre Road or Ridge adjacent or near the San Rafael Primitive Area; and requested the Forest Service in co-operation with related agencies, to conduct a complete impact survey of the effect that the construction and public use of a road on the Sierra Madre Ridge would have on the wilderness and wildlife values of the area.

Desert Military Maneuvers—Requested that the Army provide, well in advance, detailed information on future maneuvers, such as Operation Desert Strike of 1964, so that conservation organizations and other concerned groups can co-operate to assure protection of scenic and other natural values on the land to be affected.

Wild Rivers in Oregon—Approved the Oregon Wild Rivers Committee program for preserving the wild qualities of the Lower Rogue and Illinois Rivers.

Guadalupe Mountains National Park—Endorsed proposal of the club's Rio Grande Chapter and the National Park Service that the Guadalupe Mountains area in Texas be set aside either as a National Park or monument.

Wilderness Act Classification Moratorium—Requested the Secretaries of Agriculture and Interior to provide for appropriate moratoria on non-conforming uses within those areas proposed as new wilderness or additions to existing wilderness.

Lower Colorado River, Cibola Dredging—Supported the California Department of Fish and Game report on the Cibola Dredging, which urged an immediate Department of Interior reconsideration of all channelization and water salvage projects not already under construction on the Lower Colorado River, and an inclusion in any future plans of assurances for the protection of fish, wildlife, and recreational resources within channelization project areas.

Ruby Mountains Scenic Area, Nevada—Approved in principle the proposal for Scenic Area classification of some 40,720 acres within the Ruby Mountains under a management plan that will maintain the area, as far as possible, in undisturbed condition.

Silver King (Calif.) Wild Area—Approved recommendation of Mother Lode Chapter and the Conservation Committee requesting the Forest Service to make a feasibility study for Wild Area classification for approximately 40,000 acres in vicinity of Silver King Creek, Toiyabe National Forest.

Marble Mountain Wilderness Area (Calif.)—Recommended that the Forest Service make a feasibility study for adding the Wooley Creek corridor to the Marble Mountain Wilderness Area.

Santa Monica (Calif.) Mountains State Park—Supported in principal a proposal to establish a large park in the Santa Monica Mountains managed to emphasize natural scenic values.

The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on March 13 and 14 in the Empire Room of the Sir Francis Drake Hotel, San Francisco.

*"Thoreau's America" exhibit
in the Takashimaya Department
Store, Tokyo.*

Thoreau Visits Japan via the Sierra Club

During the third week of September, 1964, some 4,000 people visited the Takashimaya Department Store in Tokyo's downtown district to see an exhibit entitled, "Thoreau's America." The exhibit was prepared by the Exhibits Branch of the United States Information Agency in Tokyo from Eliot Porter's "In Wildness Is the Preservation of the World." Plates from the book were cut out and mounted on 45 two by three foot panels along with the English text. Sections of the Thoreau quotations were translated into Japanese by Professor Motoshi Karita so that each panel had at least part

of the flavour of the original given in Japanese. The exhibit was first shown in June, 1964, at a meeting of the American Literature Society in the Tokyo American Cultural Center. It was also shown for a period in the lobby of the Annex of the American Embassy in Tokyo.

The exhibit had its first major showing to the Japanese public at the Takashimaya Department Store, and in early October was shown in the Daiwa Department Store in Niigata. After a tour to other cities and universities, the exhibit became part of the opening show at a new museum in Yamagata City.



Some of the exhibit panels with the mounted prints from the Sierra Club book, "In Wildness..." by Eliot Porter. Photographs by United States Information Agency

Mr. Charles B. Fahs, Minister-Counselor for Cultural and Public Affairs with the United States Embassy in Tokyo, and a Sierra Club member, first told us of the exhibit. In his letter, he notes that the Japanese assistant for the exhibit said of it: "It has evoked words of praise from those interested in nature, art, and publishing. Many of those who viewed it could not believe the pictures are reproductions. Photographers and publishers wondered at the photographic and the printing techniques. But above all, most of the audience seemed struck by the dignity of nature shown in all of the works."

Mr. Fahs adds, "... many Japanese seem to feel that Eliot Porter's photographs have a feeling very close to what they consider to be typically Japanese.

"The Exhibits Branch is now contemplating making a similar exhibit out of your book on the Grand Canyon. . . ."

In closing, Mr. Fahs said: "Perhaps I should add that in addition to the copy of 'In Wildness . . .' that went to the Emperor, both Ambassador Reischauer and I have used others of your large format volumes for presentation purposes. They are a gift which is always welcome and of which we can always be proud."

Santa Fe Conference

On November 7, 1964, the first conference on natural areas of the Southwest was held in Santa Fe, New Mexico. It was sponsored by the Rio Grande Chapter of the Sierra Club and several other conservation and outing clubs.

About 125 people registered for the day-long meeting, attending workshops, participating in panel discussions, and listening to talks. Among the agencies and institutions represented were the New Mexico Bureau of Land Manage-

ment, the National Park Service, the United States Forest Service, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, the University of Arizona, and the Sierra Club.

The principal speaker was Senator Clinton P. Anderson of New Mexico, who spoke out strongly on the declining ability of power dam proponents to economically justify their projects.

The success of the conference under chairman Elmo Robinson, also chairman of the club's Rio Grande Chapter, has assured its continuation. It will henceforth be known as the "Santa Fe Conference."

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Washington Office Report

By William Zimmerman, Jr.

BEFORE WE LOOK AHEAD into the two-year period beginning this month, let us take a quick look back, at the achievements of the 88th Congress. The final edition of the Calendar issued by the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs lists 104 Public Laws enacted, 47 in the first session, 57 in the second session. The committee also lists 163 bills on which it had made reports to the House, thus indicating a substantial backlog of unfinished legislation, much of which will undoubtedly be introduced in the first session of the 89th Congress.

It would be a serious mistake to conclude that the passage of the Wilderness Act and the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act has ended the need for continuing vigilance by conservationists. On the contrary, both of these major Acts will require administrative and legislative action for a period of years. Every new Wilderness Area proposed will be scrutinized by the Executive, and by the governors of the various states, before it is considered by the Congress. It may be folly to make a guess, but it is possible that 15 or 20 Wilderness Areas may be discussed in the 89th Congress. This does not mean necessarily 15 or 20 bills. Chairman Aspinall has strongly hinted that he would welcome one or more omnibus bills, perhaps one a year. No matter what form the bills take, it is almost certain that conservationists will want larger areas than the Forest Service or other agencies will recommend.

The second major Act, the Conservation Fund, is also one that will require both administrative and legislative attention. The Bureau of Outdoor Recreation is busy making plans and devising procedures. The initial allocation of funds will be made by the bureau, but every dollar to be spent for the purchase or development of land will be appropriated by the Congress. Of course this means leg work on the Hill so long as the Fund lasts.

NEXT TAKE A LOOK at half a dozen real controversies, the easy ones first, Kings Canyon National Park and San Geronio. I expect Mr. Sisk to reintroduce the bill to add Cedar Grove and Tehipite Valley to Kings Canyon National Park. He was convinced a few weeks ago that he would have little or no trouble. He did not struggle hard when the House subcommittee decided to give the representatives of the irrigation districts until January to make a study. He said that most of the voters favored the inclusion of these areas in the park, and that he doubted if any money could be found to pay for the studies as proposed. San Geronio may be tough, for Harold T. ("Biz") Johnson will surely try a separate bill. If, however, Harry Sheppard's successor from that southern district stands opposed to the bill, committees are likely to side with him.

The Redwoods National Park being recommended by the Park Service, will, I assume, be the subject of an administration bill, but it will meet a fight because of the great cost.

Dr. Wayburn and others are critical of the Park Service for failing to urge adequate watershed protection. (See page 8.)

I look also for a battle over the Northern Cascades. The joint Department of Agriculture and Department of the Interior committee is not ready to make its report to the two Secretaries. The economic study of the consequences of creating a park has not been completed. If Agriculture and Interior are in disagreement, it will be next to impossible to get a park bill through the Congress.

One hundred million dollars, more or less, to save the redwoods is only a bag of peanuts next to the Central Arizona Project, which has been the dream of Arizona politicians for thirty years. Twenty-odd years ago I heard Northcott Ely, then as now, attorney for the Los Angeles and other water users, say that the Colorado River did not have enough water to take care of southern California and central Arizona. Presently the Colorado River has so little water that when Glen Canyon Dam is closed not enough water flows down the river to generate power at Hoover Dam. Yet the administration plan is to build two more dams between Glen Canyon and Hoover, thereby materially increasing the loss of water because of evaporation. An intervening dam, at Bridge Canyon, water or no water, is scheduled to produce enough power in the next one hundred years to pay off the cost of the project. The Sierra Club's initial opposition to the whole project was that Bridge Canyon dam would back still water into the Grand Canyon National Monument and the National Park. A second dam at Marble Gorge, above the park, would threaten them indirectly. Please have in mind, too, that Senator Kuchel's "substitute" bill, drafted by Northcott Ely, would *require* the construction of these two dams.

Just how this West Coast and Southwest water problem will be considered in the next Congress is not clear. Central Arizona may be considered by itself, or it may be part of the gigantic Southwest water and power project proposed by the Interior Department. This contemplates bringing water from the Columbia and the Snake southward into California, and diverting northern California water southward to make certain that southern California's decreed water quota shall be met in perpetuity. This is not the place to suggest answers, but merely to say in words of one syllable: this will be a fight.

And now Rampart Dam! Is it the economic salvation or damnation of Alaska? It would create a lake, if I remember rightly, larger than Lake Erie. Had it not been for the earthquake in Alaska only a few months ago, Rampart Dam might have been a major issue in the last Congress. The factors in this situation are complex: cheap power, but not as cheap as atomic power; destruction of wildlife; importation of new industries to make Alaska financially sound; vanity of political leaders; all dependent on Uncle for a few hundred millions to be repaid long after the grandchildren of the dam's advocates and opponents are dead.